USS Constitution Chief 'Medical All-Star'

Story by Seaman Shannon S. Heavin, USS Constitution Public Affairs

BOSTON – A USS Constitution chief petty officer was recognized as a Boston Red Sox "Medical All-Star" during a pre-game ceremony at Red Sox's Fenway Park, Aug. 20.

Chief Hospital Corpsman (SS/SW) Jason Shaeffer was selected by the Red Sox for the medical care he provides to Constitution Sailors while serving as the ship's independent duty corpsman.

"I show up to work every day and work hard," said Shaeffer. "Above all, I believe in doing the right thing in caring for my Sailors."

The Red Sox organization recognizes Medical All-Stars every Friday night during home games throughout baseball season. To be selected, candidates must be an outstanding member of the medical community and heroically searching for a cure and fighting disease within their respective field.

"This city is so embodied with history that giving limelight to USS Constitution Sailors serves as a dual purpose; (Shaeffer's) medical contribution and maintaining the beauty of the oldest ship afloat in the world," said Marty Ray, Red Sox public affairs manger.

Approximately 10,000 spectators who showed up to see the Red Sox play the Toronto Blue Jays also saw Shaeffer's name in lights on the ballpark's mega-screen while he was presented with an exclusive Red Sox jacket. The crowd applauded, and the game began shortly thereafter.

"Chief Shaeffer serves more than 70 Sailors by himself," said Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 2nd

Class (SW) Jacob Wallace, who submitted Shaeffer's name to the Red Sox organization. "He has to organize all our medical needs and ensure we're within medical standards for our command. It's an important job overseeing the health of so many people, so when I heard about the award, I knew he'd be a perfect candidate for it."

Constitution is located in the Charlestown Navy Yard of Boston Harbor. She is the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat and welcomes more than 500,000 visitors a year. For more information on Constitution, visit www.history.navy.mil/ussconstitution or join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ussconstitutionofficial.